

First Mondays

Monthly Notes for Virginia's
Adult Education Providers



VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
DIVISION OF
**TECHNOLOGY, CAREER &
ADULT EDUCATION**
OFFICE OF ADULT EDUCATION & LITERACY SERVICES

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Calendar



September 10
GED® Examiners'
Meeting

September 30-October 1
Program Managers'
Meeting

October 11-13
VAACE Conference

October 18-22
GED & Lifelong Learning
Awareness Week

October 21
Governor's Forum on
Postsecondary Credential
Attainment by Adult
Workers
Sponsored by the
National Governors
Association

Money Matters



**Be sure to read your
grant award and memo
carefully. Dates and
requirements have
changed.**

Upcoming policy releases

OAEL's **assessment** policy has been approved by the U. S. Dept. of Education (USED) for program year 2010-2011. That policy will be disseminated to local and regional programs soon and will also be posted on OAEL's Web site. Key changes address the use of assessment waivers for learners with less than the publishers' recommended instructional hours between pre- and post-testing.

OAEL is making revisions to the **goal setting** policy to reflect recent guidance from USED regarding follow-up goal reporting, as well as to provide clarification about certification and recertification timeframes. The revised policy will be released with the new assessment policy.

The **distance learning** policy will soon be submitted to USED for review and approval. Contingent upon USED's approval, the policy will allow programs to track and report distance learning hours for their learners. This policy will be released as soon as OAEL receives approval, hopefully by late summer.

New pilot: Transition specialists named

The importance of transitioning adults to postsecondary education and training opportunities is rapidly increasing. By 2016, 40 percent of all new jobs, and 75 percent of the fastest-growing job sectors, will require some postsecondary education or training.¹

OAEL is pleased to announce an exciting partnership with the VCCS. Two transition specialists have begun to recruit incomplete and non-passers back into adult education programs, identify strategies necessary to pass the GED Tests, and lead them into postsecondary opportunities. The specialists' activities include outreach, financial aid assistance, college visits, and working with local WIBs to identify workforce opportunities.

Marlyn Pierce will be working out of the Chesapeake office and will cover Norfolk, Virginia Beach, Portsmouth, and Chesapeake. Debbie Caselli will be working from the Prince William County office. Her area will include Prince William, Arlington, Alexandria, and Fairfax. The pilot will continue through the 2010-2011 FY. We look forward to sharing with other programs the results of this initiative.

¹ <http://www.bls.gov/news.release/ecopro.t06.htm>

GED Spot



Last fiscal year, 44% of testers said they first learned about GED testing from a friend, neighbor, or family member. Keep this in mind as you plan your outreach for the fall.

JULY NUMBERS
Tested 1651
Passed 662

Comings & Goings



Susan Utt has retired from her position as program manager of Northern Shenandoah Valley Adult Education. A replacement has not been named.

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Local spotlight: Lee Co. family milestones



On June 13, Curtis Ambrose, II, of Jonesville was the first member of his family to graduate from high school. Three weeks earlier, on May 22, his mother Beth Kuhle passed her GED Tests following a three-month program through Regional Adult Education Program of Lee, Scott, Wise and Norton Public Schools. Kuhle, a single mother of three sons, decided to pursue the GED program after receiving a flyer in the mail. She enlisted the help of Curtis with the mathematics section. "I am proud of her. Helping her is a way to return to her all that she has done for me," said Ambrose, who graduated with a 3.999 grade point average. Ambrose is planning to enlist in the United States Air Force and his mother hopes to study history in college in the future.

Portions reprinted with permission from Donna Lock of the Powell Valley News from the June 9, 2010, article entitled, "Mother and Son Celebrate Milestones."

A warm welcome to Emily Ferlis



OAEL is pleased to announce a new member of our team. Emily Ferlis, program development specialist with the VALRC, will be providing assistance and support of the OAEL accountability and monitoring programs. Emily will develop and deliver professional development, resources, and information in support of state accountability initiatives. Emily is a current Ph.D. candidate at VCU in the Instructional Leadership track. She holds an M.S. in TESOL from City College of New York and a B.A. in Cultural Anthropology and International Relations from UVA. Please join us in welcoming Emily.

WIA news

OVAE has issued a guidance document regarding how funding under AEFLA, enacted as Title II of the Workforce Investment Act, may be used to support Integrated Education and Training models in combination with other funding sources. Follow the link to learn more:

www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ovae/pi/AdultEd/aefta-funds-for-iet.pdf

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